



**Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 10, No. 23 – Tuesday, June 13, 2017**

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Newsletter (PDF version): <http://bit.ly/NeighborhoodAdvisory-2017-06-13>

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*Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhoods to report news important to Knoxville's residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-4382. News deadline: 5 p.m. Mondays.*

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**1. Attend the Neighborhood Grants Workshop This Thursday**

City neighborhood groups interested in applying for a neighborhood improvement grant this year must send a representative to a pre-application workshop this coming Thursday evening, June 15.

This workshop will take place at the city's main bus terminal, Knoxville Station, located at 301 East Church Avenue. Look for the community room on the Church Avenue level. The workshop will begin promptly at 6 p.m. and end no later than 8 p.m.

Free parking is available on Church Street. If no spaces are left, park in the Civic Auditorium "A" garage. Mention Office of Neighborhoods to the attendant. Do NOT park at the Outpatient Diagnostic Center.

Funding applications are due July 17. A resident-led, resident-controlled, city neighborhood organization can apply for \$500 to \$3,000 using the application form and the program guidelines that can be found [on this web page](#). To have hard copies of these documents mailed to you, contact Debbie Sharp at [dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov) or 215-4382.

Up to \$30,000 has been set aside for neighborhood improvement projects in the year beginning January 1, 2018. The funding is made available by Mayor Madeline Rogero, City Council, and city taxpayers.

If your group is absolutely unable to send a representative to the June 15 workshop, contact Debbie Sharp before 4:30 p.m. Thursday to see if a make-up session can be scheduled. If your group was represented at the June 3 workshop, you do not have to attend the one this week.

## **2. This Week: Learn about New Walkability Ordinance**

There will be two opportunities this week for city and county residents to learn about the proposed Walkability Ordinance.

First, Gerald Green, executive director of the [Metropolitan Planning Commission](#) (MPC), will open a discussion of and ask for feedback on the draft ordinance at this week's meeting of the Neighborhood Advisory Council ([NAC](#)) at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 14, at Cansler YMCA, 616 Jessamine Street.

View the current draft of the [Walkability Ordinance](#). Updates are highlighted in yellow.

If you are unable to attend the NAC meeting on Wednesday, then you might wish to join MPC, City, and County staff this Thursday for coffee and conversation about the draft walkability ordinance.

An open house will be held from 7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Thursday, June 15, in the Rear Conference Room at Panera Bread, 4855 Kingston Pike. All are welcome to attend, ask questions, and provide your views on the draft ordinance.

In March 2016, a Sidewalk Committee was formed to help draft a comprehensive sidewalk policy for the City of Knoxville and Knox County that would set requirements for walkability and pedestrian facilities associated with new development and redevelopment.

The NAC, appointed by the Mayor, meets the second Wednesday of each month, to advise City Departments on neighborhood issues. For questions, please contact Debbie Sharp at 215-4382 or [dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov).

## **3. Westwood Outpaces Island Home Park for Wiffle Ball Championship**

Six great neighborhoods came out to participate in the Inaugural Neighborhood Wiffle Ball Tournament this past Saturday at Victor Ashe Park.

There were lots of swings, runs, outs, and laughs as the teams each played three seven-inning games. Competing were residents from the Forest Heights, Island Home Park, Oakwood Lincoln Park, Timbercrest, West Hills/Wesley Woods, and Westwood neighborhoods.

Island Home Park faced Westwood in the championship game. The teams were tied up at the bottom of the seventh, throwing the game into overtime. At the bottom of the eighth, Westwood scored the winning run when a ball was thrown and missed the runner, changing the tie score to 5-4.

Thanks to the Parks and Recreation Department for supplying equipment, expertise, personnel, and medals; to Jennifer Reynolds for having a great idea and seeing it to fruition; and to all of the teams that ventured out for a day in the sun for some fun with neighborhoods. See the great TV coverage by [WBIR](#) and [WVLT](#).

Get your teams ready for next year! See the Office of Neighborhoods' [Facebook](#) page for pictures of the games.

#### **4. Houses, Lots Added for Sale in Homemaker Program**

The City of Knoxville recently listed four houses and five vacant lots for sale in the Community Development Department's Homemaker Program.

The houses are located at 229 Ailsie Drive, 2701 Amelia Road, 2446 Dodson Avenue, and 3960 West Bellemeade Avenue. The vacant lots are located at 604 Ben Hur Avenue, 0 South Chestnut Street (parcel ID 082-NN-007), 107 S. Chestnut Street, 737 S. Chestnut Street, 2535 Louise Avenue, and 2120 McCalla Avenue.

Under the Homemaker Program, the City offers vacant lots and lots with substandard structures for sale to individuals, non-profit organizations, and businesses. These properties have been identified by the City for acquisition to further its mission to remove blight, redevelop neighborhoods, and provide affordable housing opportunities. The purchaser will be required, in almost all cases, to construct a new dwelling on vacant parcels or rehabilitate existing structures.

Individuals can make an offer on a property by submitting an application (available on the web page below). The sales agreement includes a provision that allows the City to take the property back if the new owner fails to make improvements to the property per the guidelines.

For a copy of the application, along with other details about the program, see: [http://knoxvilletn.gov/government/city\\_departments\\_offices/community\\_development/homemaker\\_program/](http://knoxvilletn.gov/government/city_departments_offices/community_development/homemaker_program/).

#### **5. City Begins Distribution of New Recycling Carts**

City crews last week began delivering 1,521 new recycling carts – eliminating a waiting list and establishing a new all-time high number of households with curbside recycling.

Public Service Department crews will be delivering the wheeled carts to households throughout the city during June and July. Once the deliveries are completed, a record 26,198 households will be able to conveniently wheel their plastics, cardboard, paper, and aluminum to the curb for pickup every other week.

“We know Knoxville families are passionate about recycling, so we want to make it easy,” Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero said. “We’re setting a new bar with a record number of households. But this is a record meant to be broken. We’ll continue to expand the curbside program.”

Curbside recycling is good environmental stewardship, but it also makes sense economically, said Chad Weth, Public Service Director. Diverting recyclable materials from landfills saves taxpayers' money.

Weth reminds curbside recyclers that glass is no longer accepted in the City's single-stream recycling program. Instead, residents are encouraged to bring glass to any of the City's [five drop-off recycling centers](#). Separating glass by color at a drop-off center assures a higher-quality product for which there is a resale market.

Knoxville residents are urged to review the [guidelines](#) for what else can and cannot be recycled. Please do not place recyclables in bags; this just makes them harder to sort. Remember that plastic bags of any kind cannot be recycled. Finally, please make sure your recycling cart lid is fully closed, especially when it is going to rain. Wet cardboard and paper cannot be recycled.

#### **6. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar** (clickable to online calendar)

Call 215-4382 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in [this Google calendar](#).

If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to attend a City of Knoxville public meeting, please contact Stephanie Brewer Cook at [scCook@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:scCook@knoxvilletn.gov) or 215-2034 no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. For an English interpreter, contact the City Law Department at 865-215-2050.

#### **Other Calendars**

Here are several other online calendars that cover events outside of the neighborhood realm:

- [Arts & Culture Alliance](#) (There's More to Knoxville)
- [Arts & Fine Crafts Center Classes](#) (City of Knoxville)
- [Birdhouse Community Center](#)
- [City of Knoxville General Calendar](#)
- [Knoxville Mercury](#) (weekly community paper)

#### **About This Newsletter**

- \*\* This Advisory is produced on most Tuesdays of the year.
- \*\* Ideas and contributions are welcome. We reserve the right to edit submissions.
- \*\* Deadline for news & calendar items: 5 p.m. Mondays
- \*\* May be copied and forwarded via neighborhood e-mail lists and newsletters.
- \*\* See past issues at our Website: <http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/neighborhoods>
- \*\* Don't have Internet access? Call 215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.